AMENDMENT	Application #	09/877,801
	Confirmation #	1358
	Filing Date	06/06/2001
	First Inventor	KEYS
	Art Unit	2877
	Examiner	M. Mooney
	Docket #	MFS-31565-1

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED
OBNTRAL FAX CENTER

MAR 0 5 2004

SIR:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on December 31, 2003:

OFFICIAL

- A) please consider the responsive Remarks provided herewith in Attachment A; and
- B) please amend the above identified application as follows:
 - Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims provided herewith in Attachment B.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

<u> 3/5/04</u> Date

James J. McGroary Reg. No. 38,960

NASA/ George C. Marshall Space Flight Center Patent Counsel LS01/James J. McGroary Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812

PTO/SB/97 (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0851-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office FAX TC 2800 (703) 872-9318

RECEIVED **CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

March 5, 2004 Date

MAR 0 5 2004

Lisa R. Hughes

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of transmission, or this certificate must identify each submitted paper.

09/877,801

- Amendment in response to office action dated 12/31/2003. Remarks, Attachment A and Attachment B (9 pages)
- 2. PTO/17 Fee Transmittal (1 page)

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.8. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to Ins collection or information is required by 37 CFR 1.6. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to the (and by the USP10 to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.8 inhurtes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary departing upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450. Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

JEST AVAILABLE COFT